

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. **(Currently Amended)** An actuator arm assembly for a disk drive, the actuator arm assembly being stamped from a single flat sheet of material and comprising:

a first actuator arm portion defining a first latch portion;

a second actuator arm portion defining a second latch portion configured to latch with the first latch portion, ~~and;~~

an actuator arm-joining portion ~~integrally~~ joining the first actuator arm portion to the second actuator arm portion, **the first actuator arm portion, the second actuator arm portion and the actuator arm joining portion being a single part made from the single flat sheet of material, rather than an assembly of sub-parts, and**

a flex cable coupled to the first actuator arm portion and to the second actuator arm portion.

2. **(Original)** The actuator arm assembly of claim 1, wherein the actuator arm assembly is configured to pivot about a pivot axis and wherein the actuator arm-joining portion is configured to bend into an orientation that is substantially parallel to the pivot axis.

3. **(Original)** The actuator arm assembly of claim 1, wherein the actuator arm assembly is configured to pivot about a pivot axis and wherein the first latch portion is configured to bend into an orientation that is substantially parallel to the pivot axis.

4. **(Original)** The actuator arm assembly of claim 1, wherein the actuator arm assembly is configured to pivot about a pivot axis and wherein both the actuator arm-joining portion and the first latch portion are configured to bend into orientations that are substantially parallel to the pivot axis.

5. **(Original)** The actuator arm assembly of claim 1, wherein the first actuator arm portion includes a first surface defined by a thickness and a length of the first actuator arm portion and wherein the second actuator arm portion includes a second surface defined by a thickness and a length of the second actuator arm portion and wherein prior to bending, the first surface faces and is parallel to the second surface.

6. **(Original)** The actuator arm assembly of claim 1, wherein the first actuator arm portion defines a first surface that defines a first through bore, the second actuator arm portion defines a second surface that defines a second through bore that is configured to align with the first through bore.

7. **(Original)** The actuator arm assembly of claim 1, wherein the actuator arm-joining portion and the first latch portion are configured to bend such that a major surface of the first actuator arm portion faces and is substantially parallel to a major surface of the second actuator arm portion.

8. **(Currently Amended)** A head stack assembly for a disk drive, the head stack assembly comprising:

an actuator arm assembly stamped from a single flat sheet of material and comprising:

a first actuator arm portion defining a first latch portion;

a second actuator arm portion defining a second latch portion configured to latch with the first latch portion;

an actuator arm-joining portion ~~integrally~~ joining the first actuator arm portion to the second actuator arm portion, **and the first actuator arm portion, the second actuator arm portion and the actuator arm joining portion being a single part made from the single flat**

sheet of material, rather than an assembly of sub-parts;

a first head gimbal assembly coupled to the actuator arm assembly, **and**

a flex cable coupled to the first actuator arm portion, to the second actuator arm portion and to the first head gimbal assembly.

9. **(Currently Amended)** The head stack assembly of claim 8, further including a second head gimbal assembly coupled to the second actuator arm portion **and to the flex cable.**

10. **(Original)** The head stack assembly of claim 8, wherein the actuator arm assembly is configured to pivot about a pivot axis and wherein the actuator arm-joining portion is configured to bend into an orientation that is substantially parallel to the pivot axis.

11. **(Original)** The head stack assembly of claim 8, wherein the actuator arm assembly is configured to pivot about a pivot axis and wherein the first latch portion is configured to bend into an orientation that is substantially parallel to the pivot axis.

12. **(Original)** The head stack assembly of claim 8, wherein the actuator arm assembly is configured to pivot about a pivot axis and wherein both the actuator arm-joining portion and the first latch portion are configured to bend into orientations that are substantially parallel to the pivot axis.

13. **(Original)** The head stack assembly of claim 8, wherein the first actuator arm portion includes a first surface defined by a thickness and a length of the first actuator arm portion and wherein the second actuator arm portion includes a second surface defined by a thickness and a length of the second actuator arm portion and wherein prior to bending, the first surface faces and is parallel to the second surface.

14. **(Original)** The head stack assembly of claim 8, wherein the first actuator arm portion defines a first surface that defines a first through bore, the second actuator arm portion defines a second surface that defines a second through bore that is configured to align with the first through bore.

15. **(Currently Amended)** A disk drive, comprising:

- a disk;
- a head stack assembly for reading and writing to the disk, the head stack assembly comprising:
 - an actuator arm assembly stamped from a single flat sheet of material and comprising:
 - a first actuator arm portion defining a first latch portion;
 - a second actuator arm portion defining a second latch portion configured to latch with the first latch portion;
 - an actuator arm-joining portion ~~integrally~~ joining the first actuator arm portion to the second actuator arm portion, **and the first actuator arm portion, the second actuator arm portion and the actuator arm joining portion being a single part made from the single flat sheet of material, rather than an assembly of sub-parts;**
 - a first head gimbal assembly coupled to the actuator arm assembly, **and**
a flex cable coupled to the first actuator arm portion, to the second actuator arm portion and to the first head gimbal assembly.

16. **(Currently Amended)** The disk drive of claim 15, further including a second head gimbal assembly coupled to the second actuator arm portion **and to the flex cable.**

17. **(Original)** The disk drive of claim 15, wherein the actuator arm assembly is configured to pivot about a pivot axis and wherein the actuator arm-joining portion is configured to bend into an orientation that is substantially parallel to the pivot axis.

18. **(Original)** The disk drive of claim 15, wherein the actuator arm assembly is configured to pivot about a pivot axis and wherein the first latch portion is configured to bend into an orientation that is substantially parallel to the pivot axis.

19. **(Original)** The disk drive of claim 15, wherein the actuator arm assembly is configured to pivot about a pivot axis and wherein both the actuator arm-joining portion and the first latch portion are configured to bend into orientations that are substantially parallel to the pivot axis.

20. **(Original)** The disk drive of claim 15, wherein the first actuator arm portion includes a first surface defined by a thickness and a length of the first actuator arm portion and wherein the second actuator arm portion includes a second surface defined by a thickness and a length of the second actuator arm portion and wherein prior to bending, the first surface faces and is parallel to the second surface.

21. **(Original)** The disk drive of claim 15, wherein the first actuator arm portion defines a first surface that defines a first through bore, the second actuator arm portion defines a second surface that defines a second through bore that is configured to align with the first through bore.

22. **(Currently Amended)** A method of making an actuator arm assembly for a disk drive, comprising the steps of:

providing a flat sheet of material;

stamping the actuator arm assembly from the provided sheet of material such that the stamped arm assembly includes:

a first actuator arm portion defining a first latch portion;

a second actuator arm portion defining a second latch portion configured to latch with the first latch portion, and

an actuator arm-joining portion ~~integrally~~ joining the first actuator arm portion to the second actuator arm portion, **the first actuator arm portion, the second actuator arm portion and the actuator arm joining portion being a single part made from the single flat sheet of material, rather than an assembly of sub-parts, and**

providing a flex cable and coupling the flex cable to the first and second actuator arm portions.

23. **(Original)** The method of claim 22, further including a step of bending the actuator arm-joining portion such that a major surface of the first actuator arm portion faces and is substantially parallel to a major surface of the second actuator arm portion.

24. **(Original)** The method of claim 22, further including a step of bending the first latch portion such that the first latch portion latches with the second latch portion.

25. **(Original)** The method of claim 22, wherein the stamping step creates a first through bore in the first actuator arm portion and a second through bore in the second actuator arm portion.

26. **(Original)** The method of claim 25, wherein after the bending step, the first through bore is configured to align with the second through bore and wherein the method further includes a step of fitting a collar within the first and second through bores to stiffen the actuator arm assembly.